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BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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PATENT  
**Box Non-Fee Amendment**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Patent Application of : Group Art Unit: 3738  
Hans Grundei, *et al.* :  
Appln. No.: 09/079,618 : Examiner: H. Phan  
Filed: May 15, 1998 :  
For: FEMUR ENDOPROSTHESIS FOR : Attorney Docket  
ARTIFICIAL HIP JOINT : No. 8056-80  
: (E 1875)

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

For purposes of the continued prosecution application (CPA) for which a request was filed on February 29, 2000, in response to the Office Action dated December 29, 1999 (Paper No. 8), and confirming the interview of March 17, 2000, please amend the above application, without prejudice, as follows.

**In the Specification:**

Please enter the substitute specification submitted herewith. Also enclosed is a black-lined copy of the original specification showing the changes and additions which have been made in the substitute specification. The undersigned hereby certifies that the black-lined copy accurately reflects the changes made and that no new matter has been added.

**In the Drawings:**

Submitted herewith is a Letter to the Official Draftsman, requesting amendment of the single Figure of drawings to simplify the reference numerals and to add reference numerals which are now included in the substitute specification for purposes of clarification of the Detailed Description Of The Invention. No new matter has been added to the drawings, and approval is respectfully requested.